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EXAMINER

VEILLARD, JACQUES

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2165

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/927,851

Examiner

Jacques Veillard

Applicant(s)

ELGART, ROSS

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/18/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5,7-25 and 32-39.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 August 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 1/7/2005.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


CHARLES RONES
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the Applicant's amendment filed on 10/18/2004.
2. Claims 1, 19, 32-35 have been amended, and claims 26-31 were canceled.

Examiner's Amendment

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be transmitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney Peter M. Midgley (Reg. No. 44,239), the attorney undersigned for Applicant(s), on January 5, 2005.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

4. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. In the following listing, changes to the claims are indicated as follows:

~~DELETIONS ARE SHOWN BY STRIKETHROUGH~~ AND ADDITIONS ARE UNDERLINED

Please amend claims 1, 19, 32-35 as follow:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of organizing and 'sharing Internet links, electronic files and hardcopy documents, the method comprising:
enabling a user to enter comments about an Internet link;
storing the entered comments about the Internet link and a URL of the Internet

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link in an Internet link record in a database;
associating the Internet link record with a category or an item;
enabling the user to enter comments about an electronic file;
storing the entered comments about the electronic file and, a file access path of the electronic file in an electronic file record in the database;
associating the electronic file record with a category or an item;
enabling the user to enter comments about a hardcopy document;
storing the entered comments about the hardcopy document and a description of the physical location of the hardcopy document in a hardcopy document record in the database;
associating the hardcopy document record with a category or an item; and
~~making the Internet link record, the electronic file record, and the hardcopy document record accessible to other users that use the database,~~
enabling the user to designate categories in the database as shared or not shared;
making Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records associated with a category designated as not shared accessible only to the user that created the category;
making Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records associated with shared categories accessible to other users that use the database;
and
~~wherein the~~ enabling the user to associate one or more Internet link records, the electronic file records, and the hardcopy document records ~~can be associated~~ with a same category or a same item; ~~and~~
~~wherein the description of the physical location of hardcopy documents comprises a description of room and/or a drawer in which the hardcopy document is located.~~

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein enabling a user to enter comments about an Internet link comprises enabling the user to enter a summary in a description filed of

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the Internet link record, and enabling the user to enter other comments in a notes field of the Internet link record.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein enabling a user to enter comments about an electronic file comprises enabling the user to enter a summary in a description field of the electronic file record, and enabling the user to enter other comments in a notes field of the electronic file record.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein enabling a user to enter comments about a hardcopy document comprises enabling the user to enter a summary in a description field of the hardcopy document record, and enabling the user to enter other comments in a notes field of the hardcopy document record.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein an item is associated with a category.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein a category can be associated with another category.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein an item can be associated with one or more categories.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising enabling the user to associate the Internet link record with another category or another item.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising enabling the user to associate the electronic file record with another category or another item.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising enabling the user to associate the hardcopy document record with another category or another item.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 1., wherein one or more Internet link records, one or more electronic file records, and one or more hardcopy document records can be associated with a same category or a same item.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 1., further comprising:
enabling the user to designate Internet link records in the database as shared or not shared;
enabling the user to designate electronic file records in the database as shared or not shared;
enabling the user to designate hardcopy document records in the database as shared or not shared; and
making the shared Internet link records, the shared electronic file records, and the shared hardcopy document records available to other users that use the database.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
enabling the user to designate fields of Internet link records in the database as shared or not shared;
enabling the user to designate fields of electronic file records in the database as shared or not shared;
enabling the user to designate fields of hardcopy document records in the database as shared or not shared; and
making the shared Internet link record fields, the shared electronic file record fields, and the shared hardcopy document record fields available to other users that use the database.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
enabling the user to designate items in the database as shared or not shared; and
making Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records associated with the shared items accessible to other users that use the database.

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16. (Original) The method of Claim. 1, further comprising generating a report of at least a portion of the Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records stored in the database.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 16, further comprising printing at least a portion of a web page identified by the stored URL of a Internet link record, and printing the stored entered comments of the Internet link record.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 16, further comprising printing at least a portion of a file identified by the stored file access path of a electronic file record, and printing the stored entered comments of the electronic file record.

19. (Currently Amended) A database that facilitates the organizing and sharing of Internet links, electronic files and hardcopy documents, the database comprising:

category records, wherein a category can be a sub-category of another category;

Internet link records storing at least the URL, associated categories and user entered comments of each of a plurality of Internet links;

electronic file records storing at least the file access path, associated categories and user entered comments of each of a plurality of electronic files; and

hardcopy document records storing at least a description of the physical location, associated categories and user entered continents of each of a plurality of hardcopy documents,

wherein an Internet link record, an electronic file record, and a hardcopy document record can be associated with a same category, and

~~wherein the description of the physical location of each of the plurality of hardcopy documents comprises a description of room and/or a drawer in which the hardcopy documents are located~~

wherein each of the category records stores a shared or **110t-shared** designation of the category,

wherein Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document

records associated with a not shared category are accessible to the user that created the category, and

wherein internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records associated with a shared category are accessible to the user that created the category and accessible to other users that use the database.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) The database of Claim 19, wherein each of the Internet link records further stores a shared or not shared designation of the Internet link, wherein not shared Internet link records are accessible to the user that created the not shared Internet link records, and wherein shared Internet link records are accessible to the user that created the shared Internet link records and accessible to other users that use the database.

22. (Original) The database of Claim 19, wherein each of the electronic file records further stores a shared or not shared designation of the electronic file, wherein not shared electronic file records are accessible to the user that created the not shared electronic file records, and wherein shared electronic file records are accessible to the user that created the shared electronic file records and accessible to other users that use the database.

23. (Original) The database of Claim 19, wherein each of the hardcopy document records further stores a shared or not shared designation of the hardcopy document, wherein not shared hardcopy document records are accessible to the user that created the not shared hardcopy document records, and wherein shared hardcopy document records are accessible to the user that created the shared hardcopy document records and accessible to other users that use the database.

24. (Original) The database of Claim 19, wherein the database is a relational database.

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25. (Original) The database of Claim 19, wherein the database is an object-oriented database.

26-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A method of organizing and sharing Internet links and hardcopy documents, the method comprising:

enabling a user to navigate to an Internet link using a web browser;

enabling the user to enter notes about the Internet link;

storing the entered notes about the Internet link and a URL of the Internet link in an Internet link record of a database;

associating the Internet link record with a category;

enabling the user to enter notes about a hardcopy document;

storing the entered notes about the hardcopy document and a description of the physical location of the hardcopy document in a hardcopy document record of the database;

associating the hardcopy document record with a category; and

~~making the stored Internet link record and the stored hardcopy document record available to other users that use the database,~~

enabling the user to designate categories in the database as shared or not shared;

making Internet link records and hardcopy document records associated with a category designated as not shared accessible only to the user that created the category;

making Internet link records and hardcopy document records associated with shared categories accessible to other users that use the database; and

~~wherein the enabling the user to associate one or more Internet link records, and the hardcopy document records can be associated with a same category or a same item;~~
and

~~wherein the description of the physical location of hardcopy documents comprises a description of room and/or a drawer in which the hardcopy document is located.~~

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33. (Currently Amended) A database that facilitates the organizing and sharing of Internet links and hardcopy documents, the database comprising:

category records, wherein a category ~~can be~~ is a sub-category of another category;

Internet link records storing at least the URL, associated categories and user entered notes of each of a plurality of Internet links; and

hardcopy document records storing at least a description of the physical location, associated categories and user entered notes of each of a plurality of hardcopy documents,

wherein an Internet link record and a hardcopy document record ~~can be~~ are associated with a same category, and

~~wherein the description of the physical location of each of the plurality of hardcopy documents comprises a description of room and/or a drawer in which the hardcopy documents are located.~~

wherein each of the category records stores a shared or not shared designation of the category,

wherein Internet link records and hardcopy document records associated with a not shared category are accessible to the user that created the category, and

wherein internet link records and hardcopy document records associated with a shared category are accessible to the user that created the category and accessible to other users that use the database.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of organizing and sharing electronic files and hardcopy documents, the method comprising:

enabling a user to navigate to an electronic file using a computer;

enabling the user to enter notes about the electronic file;

storing the entered notes about the electronic file and a file access path of the electronic file in an electronic file record of a database;

associating the electronic file record with a category;

enabling the user to enter notes about a hardcopy document;

storing the entered notes about the hardcopy document and a description of the physical location of the hardcopy document in a hardcopy document record of the

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database;

associating the hardcopy document record with a category; and

~~making the stored electronic file record and the stored hardcopy document record available to other users that use the database,~~

enabling the user to designate categories in the database as shared or not shared;

making electronic file records and hardcopy document records associated with a category designated as not shared accessible only to the user that created the category;

making electronic file records and hardcopy document records associated with shared categories accessible to other users that use the database; and

~~wherein the~~ enabling the user to associate one or more electronic file records, and the hardcopy document records ~~can be associated~~ with a same category or a same item; and

~~wherein the description of the physical location of hardcopy documents comprises a description of room and/or a drawer in which the hardcopy document is located.~~

35. (Currently Amended) A database that facilitates the organizing and sharing of electronic files and hardcopy documents, the database comprising;

category records, wherein a category ~~can be~~ is a sub-category of another category;

electronic file records storing at least the file access path, associated categories and user entered notes of each of a plurality of electronic files; and

hardcopy document records storing at least a description of the physical location, associated categories and user entered notes of each of a plurality of hardcopy documents,

wherein an electronic file record and a hardcopy document record ~~can be~~ are associated with a same category, and

~~wherein the description of the physical location of each of the plurality of hardcopy documents comprises a description of room and/or a drawer in which the hardcopy documents are located.~~

wherein each of the category records stores a shared or not shared designation of

the category,

wherein electronic file records and hardcopy document records associated with a not shared category are accessible to the user that created the category, and

wherein electronic file records and hardcopy document records associated with a shared category are accessible to the user that created the category and accessible to other users that use the database.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the description of the physical location of the hardcopy document comprises a description of a room and/or a drawer in which the hardcopy document is located.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the description of the physical location of the hardcopy document comprises a description of a book title and/or a page number at which the hardcopy document is located.

38. (Previously Presented) The database of Claim 19, wherein the description of the physical location of each of the plurality of hardcopy documents comprises a description of a room and/or a drawer in which the hardcopy documents are located.

39. (Previously Presented) The database of Claim 19, wherein the description of the physical location of each of the plurality of hardcopy documents comprises a description of a book title and/or a page number at which the hardcopy documents are located.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-5, 7-19, 21-25, and 32-39 are allowed over the prior art of record.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant particularly discloses a method for facilitating the organizing and sharing of Internet links and hardcopy documents in database structure environment by associating the

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hardcopy document record with a category or an item; enabling the user to designate categories in the database as shared or not shared; making Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records associated with a category designated as not shared accessible only to the user that created the category; making Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records associated with shared categories accessible to other users that use the database; and enabling the user to associate one or more Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records with a same category or a same item as embodied in the independent claims 1, 19, 32-35, in context with the other limitations of the claims and as further described in the Applicant's specification on page 1, line 28 through page 3, line 7 and line 23 through page 5, line 4 et alia was not disclosed by, would not have been obvious over, nor would have been fairly suggested by the prior art of record.

The dependent claims, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the specification are also allowed.

The closest prior art Lenk et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 6,366,923) and Cassorla et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 5,146,552). Lenk et al. disclose a system conducting research on the Internet access for selecting information wherein a document can be produced from a clipped data and the data can be edited, and Cassorla et al. disclose a method for associating annotation with electronically publishing material wherein a reader can create, from a published document, notes, bookmarks or annotations and relate them to a particular location in the document. However, both Lenk et al. and Cassorla et al. taken singularly or in combination fail to disclose or suggest a system or method for enabling the user to designate categories in the database as shared or not shared; making Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records associated

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with a category designated as not shared accessible only to the user that created the category; making Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records associated with shared categories accessible to other users that use the database; and enabling the user to associate one or more Internet link records, electronic file records, and hardcopy document records with a same category or a same item as recited in independent claims 1, 19, 32-35. The closest prior art fail to anticipate or render Applicant's limitations above obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacques Veillard whose telephone number is (571) 272-4086. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. to Fri. from 9 Am to 4:30 PM, alt. Fri. off..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on (571) 272- 4083. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



CHARLES RONES
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Jacques Veillard
Patent Examiner TC 2100

January 7, 2005